

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OIC-02 /068 W

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P R 141800Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7210

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 2313

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OFOR, OAS, NU

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTRY CONSULTATIONS ON SAN JOSE MEETING

REF STATE 133032

1. EMBOFFS DISCUSSED SAN JOSE CONFERENCE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ALEJANDRO MONTIEL AND VICE FOREIGN MINISTER HARRY BODAN JUNE 14, DRAWING ON MATERIAL AND EMPHASIZING POINTS IN REFTEL.

2. MONTIEL AGREED WITH US POSITION ON ARTICLE 2 REFLECTING THAT MENTION OF ECONOMIC SECURITY TREATY HAD NO PLACE IN RIO TREATY. BOTH HE AND BODAN STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT NICARAGUA SAW THE NECESSITY FOR ADOPTING A FORMAL AGREEMENT CONTAINING GUIDELINES FOR ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR IN THE HEMISPHERE, ALBEIT NOT A TREATY CONTAINING SANCTIONS, AND WOULD WORK TOWARD THAT END. MEANWHILE, MONTIEL PROMISED TO COOPERATE IN ATTEMPTING TO ELIMINATE OFFENDING LANGUAGE DURING WHAT HE IMAGINED WOULD BE COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS AT SAN JOSE. WHILE NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS, HE THOUGHT THAT THERE WERE A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WHICH SYMPATHIZED WITH THE
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US PROBLEM ON THIS ARTICLE AND WOULD RESPOND TO SOME FACE-SAVING

COMPROMISE. HE MADE NO MENTION OF PUTTING LANGUAGE IN THE PREAMBLE, BUT BASED ON THE TENOR OF HIS REMARKS, WE SUSPECT THAT NICARAGUA WOULD REACT QUITE FAVORABLY IF THIS ALTERNATIVE WERE TABLED.

3. MONTIEL THOUGHT NICARAGUA COULD SUPPORT LESS AMBIGUOUS LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLE 3. ALSO, AFTER RE-READING THE VERBOSE ARTICLE 6, BOTH HE AND BODAN AGREED THAT GREATER CLARITY WAS NEEDED. HE OBSERVED, HOWEVER, THAT THE LANGUAGE IN QUESTION SEEMED MORE THE PRODUCT OF ANGLO-SAXON LEGAL TRADITION THAN LATIN.

4. NICARAGUANS ASKED OUR POSITION ON PARTICIPATION OF NON SIGNATORY COUNTRIES, NOTING THAT GON FAVORED GIVING THEM NON VOTING OBSERVER STATUS. THEY SEEMED SATISFIED WITH OUR ESTIMATE THAT THEY WOULD PROBABLY BE INVITED WITH VOICE, BUT NOT VOTE.

5. MONTIEL EXPRESSED HIS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE NEW PARAGRAPH 4 OF ARTICLE 3, SUGGESTING THAT JOINT CONSULTATION WITH UN MIGHT BE TROUBLESOME. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE NEED FOR SUCH AN APPROACH LIMITED TO THE USE OF ARMED FORCE. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS SAYING THIS FOR THE RECORD RATHER THAN INFORMING US OF A SERIOUS NICARAGUAN EFFORT AT SAN JOSE TO ALTER THE REVISED LANGUAGE.

6. MONTIEL REVEALED CONSIDERABLE APPREHENSION THAT THE SAN JOSE CONFERENCE MAY IMMEDIATELY TURN ITSELF INTO AN ORGAN OF CONSULTATION UPON THE SIGNING OF THE PROTOCOL OF AMENDMENT AND LIFT THE SANCTIONS ON CUBA BY MAJORITY VOTE. HE DECLARED THAT NICARAGUA WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A MEETING SHOULD IT BE CONVENED, SINCE IT WAS HIS POSITION THAT THIS ACTION COULD NOT BE TAKEN UNTIL RATIFICATION INSTRUMENTS WERE DEPOSITED. WE REASSURED HIM THAT WE SHARED HIS JURIDICAL POINT OF VIEW, BUT ALSO THAT WE EXPECTED THAT THE DELEGATES MAY WELL CONSIDER THE SANCTIONS QUESTION UNDER A DIFFERENT FORMAT AND THAT WE HOPED A GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION COULD BE FOUND. BOTH MONTIEL AND BODAN APPEARED DUBIOUS ABOUT THE LEGALITY OF THIS KIND OF A MOVE, BUT SEEMED GRATEFUL WHEN WE PROMISED TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THEM ON THIS ISSUE AS IT DEVELOPED.

SHELTON

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